ABSTRACT

MANAGEMENT OF PROTOCOL INFORMATION IN PNNI HIERARCHICAL NETWORKS

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Methods and apparatus are provided for managing protocol information in a PNNI hierarchical network. In a PAR-enabled device (1) of the network, topology indicators (HC, LC) are assigned to protocol information encapsulated in PAR PTSEs received by the PAR-enabled device (1) from the network. The assignment of a topology indicator (HC, LC) to

10 protocol information in a PAR PTSE is dependent on the location of the network node which originated that PAR PTSE in the PNNI topology as seen by the PAR-enabled device (1). Protocol information in received PAR PTSEs is then supplied to a protocol device (5) associated with the PAR-enabled device (1) in a manner dependent on the assigned topology indicators (HC, LC), for example with tags comprising the assigned topology indicators (HC,

15 LC). The information supplied to the protocol device (5) thus reflects the topology indicators (HC, LC) which in turn reflect the location in the PNNI topology of the originating nodes of the PAR PTSEs. This allows the configuration of the network topology for the protocol in question to be controlled in dependence on the underlying PNNI topology.

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